

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 20, 1997

Senate Joint Resolution

No. 11

Introduced by Senator Kelley

February 19, 1997

Senate Joint Resolution No. 11—Relative to the tandem method of skydiving instruction.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 11, as amended, Kelley. Tandem skydiving equipment and instruction.

Under existing law, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has regulatory authority over equipment and instruction regarding the use of parachutes for skydiving.

This measure would urge the Congress of the United States, the FAA, and the skydiving industry to immediately conclude and make permanent a rule change to a specified regulation of the FAA to legalize and legitimize tandem skydiving equipment and the methods of training that have been successfully employed for tandem skydiving.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Existing federal regulations require that
2 all tandem skydiving instruction and jumping occur
3 under an exemption to regulations of the Federal
4 Aviation Administration (FAR Part 105.43(a)) allowing
5 use of the “dual harness, dual parachute system”; and

6 WHEREAS, The original test program was anticipated
7 as taking one year to 18 months to demonstrate the safety
8 of the system but has extended to ~~14~~ 13 years due to the

1 inability ~~to~~ of the FAA to address a permanent rule
2 change; and

3 WHEREAS, The tandem skydiving system has been
4 thoroughly tested on over 2.5 million “experimental”
5 skydives and has proved itself to be the safest and most
6 popular *method* of introductory skydiving training ever
7 known; and

8 WHEREAS, The skydiving industry has now been
9 subject to the exemption process for ~~14~~ 13 years with no
10 indications as to when this burdensome and unnecessary
11 process will be concluded; and

12 WHEREAS, The skydiving industry seeks relief from
13 the burdensome and commercially restrictive
14 requirements of the original exemption, prohibitions
15 which are preventing the industry from expanding into
16 new and acceptable markets; and

17 WHEREAS, Finalizing a permanent rule change to
18 FAR Part 105.43(a) will maintain or enhance skydiving
19 safety and pose no undue cost burden to the consumer;
20 now, therefore, be it

21 *Resolved by the Senate and Assembly of the State of*
22 *California, jointly*, That California urges the Congress of
23 the United States, the Federal Aviation Administration,
24 and the skydiving industry to immediately conclude and
25 make permanent the rule change to FAR Part 105.43(a)
26 to legalize and legitimize tandem skydiving equipment
27 and the methods of training that have been successfully
28 employed for tandem skydiving, as intended by the
29 original exemption; and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit
31 copies of this resolution to the President and Vice
32 President of the United States, the Speaker of the House
33 of Representatives, to each Senator and Representative
34 from California in the Congress of the United States, to
35 the Administrator of the Federal Aviation
36 Administration, and to the President of the United States
37 Parachute Association.

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